

# GULF DEFENDER

WING MISSION: TRAIN THE WORLD'S BEST AIR SUPERIORITY TEAM FOR THE AIR FORCE

WING VISION: TEAM TYNDALL – TAKING AMERICA'S PREMIER AIR SUPERIORITY TRAINING INTO THE 21ST CENTURY

Vol. 59, No. 13

Tyndall Air Force Base, Fla. *Gulf Defender* Special Edition

March 31, 2000

Tyndall Air Force Base's

## Gulf Coast Salute

April 1, 2000  
9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Illustration by Bryan-Olson Corp.



# Tyndall part of Bay County community

**Danny Sparks**  
*Bay County commissioner*

During this year's Gulf Coast Salute, as we commemorate the great partnership forged over the last 60 years between Tyndall Air Force Base and Bay County, let us be ever mindful of the many sacrifices made by the men and women of our armed forces. These selfless men and women preserve the freedoms and privileges that we, as Americans, enjoy.

Through World War II, the Korean War, Vietnam conflict and Desert Storm, we have been proud and very supportive of "our" base and all those who have so proudly served this great nation.

Our faith and friendship



**Danny Sparks**  
**Bay County commissioner**

have been rewarded tenfold by a dedicated and professional group of people who adopted this community as their own.

The challenges in the new millennium will test our commitments to peace and a way of life in Northwest Florida that we hold so dear.

As we celebrate our alliance and the rewards we have gained from it, let us also be ever mindful of our local heroes, some who wore the uniform and those who did not. Always remember, "All gave some, some gave all."

I encourage everyone to participate in Tyndall's Gulf Coast Salute Open House and Air Show 2000. It's your chance to see another part of our community.

# Welcome to Tyndall's Gulf Coast Salute 2000

## Open house is our way to say thank you, we're proud to be your neighbors

**Brig. Gen. Walter E. Buchanan III**  
*325th Fighter Wing commander*

Welcome to **Tyndall Air Force Base and Gulf Coast Salute 2000!**

This open house is our way of thanking you, our friends and neighbors, for your unwavering support throughout the years.

Our open house committee, led by **Maj. Allen Hicks** and staffed by dozens of enthusiastic *Team Tyndall* members, has been working to make our air show a special day for you and your family. The activities began last week with our open house regatta and continued with a golf

tournament and a civilian aircraft fly-in, but those events were just the beginning.

We've got a big day planned, starting 8 a.m. Saturday with a fun run beginning at Tyndall's historic **Maxwell Flag Park** and looping over to the flightline side of the base where the run ends among the many static aircraft displays that are here for the show.

We have dozens of flying acts and aircraft displays, including demonstrations by the

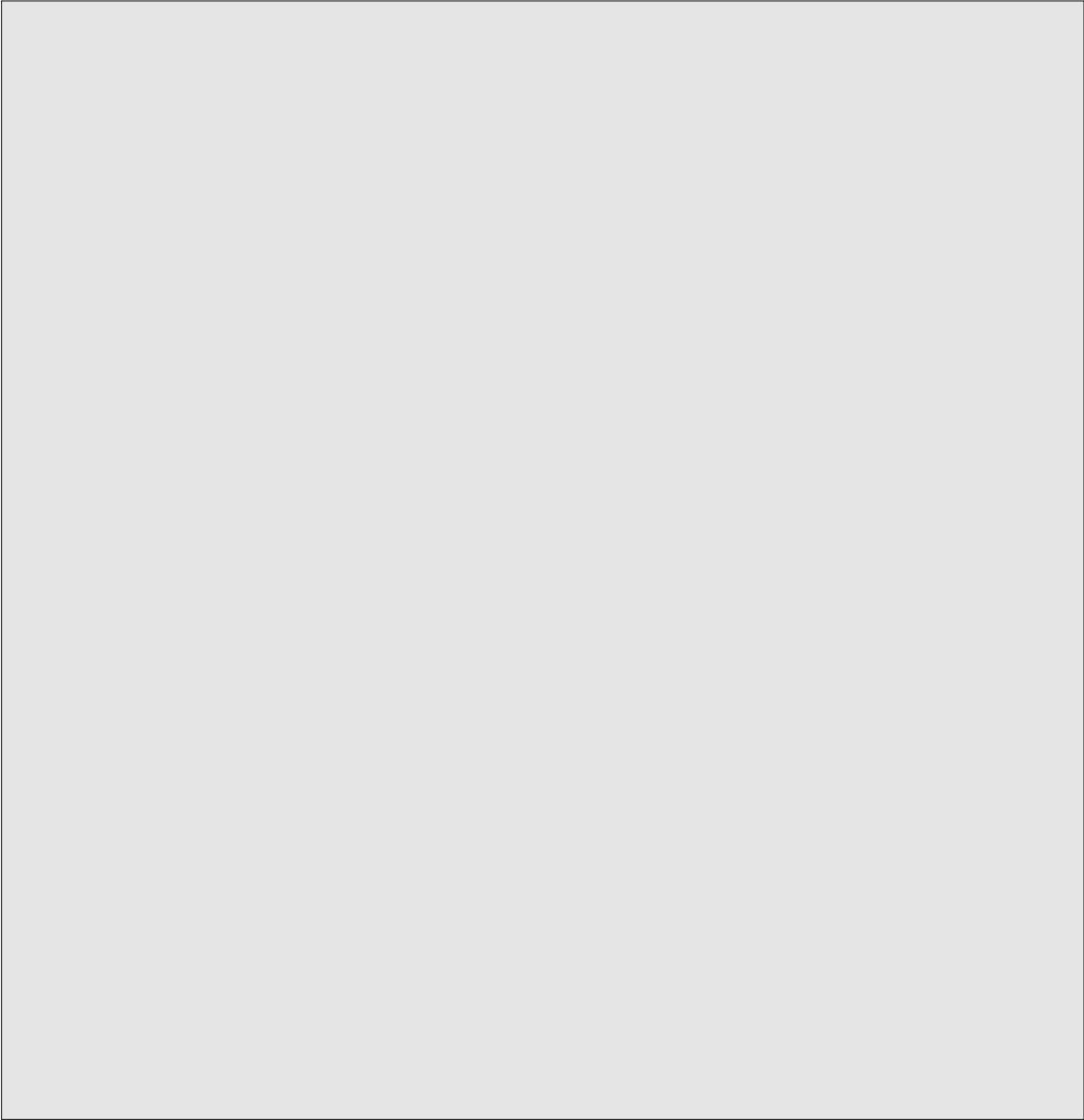
mighty **F-15 Eagle** and the **A-10 Thunderbolt II**, the tank-killer from Operation Desert Storm. And of course we'll welcome back the **Super Shockwave**, a 1957 pickup that's been "slightly" modified with two jet engines that allow it to rocket down Tyndall's runway at more than 300 miles per hour!

Of course highlighting the show are our special guests, the **U.S. Army Golden Knights**, who will get your blood pumping with the finest in free-fall and parachuting demonstrations.

We at Tyndall are proud to wear Air Force blue and we're proud to be your neighbors. We hope you enjoy the day and walk away with a better understanding of the capabilities and quality that is your military services.



**Brig. Gen. Buck Buchanan**  
**325th FW commander**



# Local Air Force recruiters do more than ‘sign em’ up’

**Master Sgt. Rob Fuller**

*325th Fighter Wing  
public affairs*

Everything has a beginning, and for many people, the start to a ‘great way of life’ begins with a visit to the local U.S. Air Force recruiting office in Panama City.

Tech. Sgt. Otis Nattiel and Staff Sgt. Roy Bradt, Air Force Recruiting Service recruiters, represent the thousands of men and women wearing the Air Force blue uniform daily to Panama City residents.

A former member of the Air Force Security Forces career field, Nattiel grasped the opportunity to recruit young men and women out of a desire to help — in a different way.

“I like dealing with people and it’s the main reason I came into recruiting,” Nattiel said. “As a member of the security forces, I dealt with people in a different aspect, typically when something bad is going on or there is a life-threatening situation. Now I get to meet people and help them in another way — mold their future and offer them the same opportunities I have.”

A successful start, however, begins well before a visit to the local Air Force recruiting office, Nattiel said. Avoiding any criminal record and scoring well on the Armed Services Vocational and Aptitude Battery test are musts, he said.

“The ASVAB is a guideline to where a person’s interest lies and their potential as far as job capabilities. Whether it’s mechanical, general, administrative or another field, it points

them toward a career choice,” Nattiel said.

Beyond a challenging and rewarding career, a myriad of opportunities awaits qualified applicants, he said.

“If you’re looking to succeed in life, the Air Force is the way to go,” Nattiel said. “Recruits receive more than \$20,000 worth of initial training and automatic enrollment in the community college of the Air Force, the largest community college in the world.”

“Not to mention the added benefits of travel, housing and food allowances, and those are just a few,” he said.

One of the newest incentives on hand is a bonus between \$1,000 and \$3,000 for people qualifying for certain mechanical or electrical career opportunities, Nattiel said. Another Air Force benefit includes a six-year enlistment option that guarantees a two-stripe promotion 22 weeks after active duty starts.

New Air Force members can also sign up to use certain educational benefits offered by the Montgomery GI Bill. Under the GI Bill, enlistees can elect to have \$100 deducted from their paycheck for 12 months. The Department of Veteran’s Affairs will add more than \$17,000 for a total of more than \$19,000. This money can be used for secondary education purposes. According to Nattiel, airmen can access a portion of the Montgomery GI Bill fund after their first year of service, and the full amount after three years. The fund can be used up to 10 years after separating from the Air Force.

Proof positive comes from someone who has made the choice to join. Sean Harrigan, who is graduating from Mosley High School this year,

has a guaranteed job waiting for him in the Security Forces career field following basic training this summer.

“I joined because I’ve been part of an Air Force family for 19 years and I like what I’ve seen,” Harrigan said. “I’ve experienced the quality of life the Air Force offers and I want to do something I enjoy while going to college at the same time.”

Three years in the Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps program during high school reinforced his already-strong tie to the military, Harrigan said.

“I want to pursue college, maybe eventually get into the Air Force Office of Special Investigations and someday law school,” Harrigan said, referring to his long-term plans.

While waiting for basic training to start on the delayed enlistment program, Harrigan assists the local recruiting office in preparing future airmen



Herm Bell

for duty. “We have a monthly DEP commander’s call,” Harrigan said. “This is where recruits through out the region who are waiting to leave for basic meet, learn about the Air Force and even practice some skills such as marching or drill.”

The delayed-enlistment option appeals to many people, Nattiel said. “New recruits can often delay entry to basic training up to a full year, based on the Air Force’s needs, during which time we help them prepare for it,” he said.

The bottom line, Nattiel said, is to explore all options and always be opened minded. “If you’re looking at all your options, you definitely want to look at the Air Force,” he said. “I guarantee there’s no way you’re going to get everything you’re looking for unless you look at the Air Force.”

**Staff Sgt. Roy Bradt will be at the recruiter booth 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday to answer questions during the Gulf Coast Salute.**

**Left: Staff Sgt. Bill Leggett, 325th Operations Group weapons and standardization lead crew member, far right, shows Staff Sgt. Roy Bradt, Panama City Air Force recruiter, middle, and Robert Dorman, potential recruit, how a missile is loaded onto an F-15.**

# ‘Being all they can be,’ Army parachute team jumps into the hearts of America

**Tech. Sgt. Sean E. Cobb**  
*325<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing*  
*public affairs*

Streaming colored smoke, the parachutists hurtle toward earth at more than 120 miles per hour. Their fall is suddenly arrested and distinctive black and gold chutes appear. An American flag flutters free as the parachutists glide down. They land directly at show center — another successful jump by the world’s premiere jump team, The U.S. Army’s Parachute Team, the Golden Knights.

The Golden Knights will perform Saturday at Tyndall’s Gulf Coast Salute 2000 air show and open house. They will complete two jumps; the flag jump with the national anthem to open the air show, and their main jump later in the afternoon.

In their 41st year of entertaining both young and old with their aerial skills, the men and women who make up the Golden Knights continue to show audiences around the world why they are considered the ‘world’s best parachute team.’

“The soldier’s who wear the black and gold colors of the team are some of the finest in today’s Army,” said Lt. Col. David T. Stahl, Golden Knights commander. “Each has excelled as a soldier and a parachutist.”

The Black and Gold Demonstration Teams spend more than 230 days a year entertaining more than 12 million people at air shows and special events around the country and the world, Stahl said. The teams have performed more than 8,500 live aerial demonstrations in all 50 states and 47 countries, earning them the title of the “Army’s Goodwill Ambassadors to the World.” The Black Demonstration Team will be performing at Tyndall.

Stationed at Fort Bragg, N. C., the 90 soldiers that make up the Golden Knights can trace their current positions back to 1959, when Army Brig. Gen. Joseph Stillwell, then Chief of Staff of XVIII Airborne Corps at Fort Bragg, formed the Strategic Army Corps Parachute Team. On June 1, 1961, the Army officially recognized, redesigned and activated the team as the United States Army Parachute Team.

One year later, the team officially adopted the nickname “Golden Knights” because of their winning record of gold medals and conquest of the skies.

Since its formation, the team’s missions have remained the same:

- Perform live aerial demonstrations for the public in promotion of

the Army’s public relations and recruitment efforts.

- Compete in national and international parachuting competitions.

- Test and evaluate new parachuting equipment and techniques for improved operation and safety.

The Golden Knights are divided into six groups: The Black and Gold Demonstration Teams, the Formation Skydiving Team, the Style and Accuracy Team, an aviation section and a headquarters section.

The two parachute competition teams, The Formation Skydiving Team and the Style and Accuracy Team, are an important facet of the Golden Knights. The teams tour the world competing in parachuting competitions and amazing the parachuting world with their record of 408 national champions, 65 world champions, and 14 national and six world-team titles in formation skydiving.

In addition to these accomplishments, they also hold the title of the only six-time world-champion parachutist in formation skydiving and the only three consecutive time national-champion parachutist in style and accuracy parachuting. These feats have made them not only the most-winning Department of Defense sports team, but also the most-winning parachute team in the world, Stahl said.

Supporting these demonstrators and competitors are the team’s aviation and headquarters sections. The aviation section consists of six fixed-wing aircraft and a team of pilots and crewmembers that make sure the parachutists make it into the air safely and quickly. The headquarters section works on the administration, budget, media relations, operations, parachute maintenance and supply concerns of the team.

The team’s superior performances, winning record and exemplary conduct have helped rekindle and sustain a feeling of pride in the hearts of many Americans, and that pride reflects back on the team, Stahl said.

“These are the finest soldier-parachutists in today’s army,” he said. “Their dedication to making every show, competition or visit a success demonstrates the great pride and skill that has helped make them the Golden Knights.”



Photo courtesy of the Golden Knights

Members of the United States Army Parachute Team, the Golden Knights, show off their aerial acrobatics during a jump. The team has some of the best parachutists in the world. Each year they perform more than 26,000 jumps before an estimated 12 million people during live-aerial demonstrations.

**The Golden Knights will perform at 10:15 a.m. and 2:15 p.m. Saturday.**



# Meet the United States Army

## Golden Knights



Staff Sgt. Dave Herwig

Autograph



Staff Sgt. Talmadge Hunter



Sgt. 1st Class Billy Van Solen



Sgt. Russell Grey



Staff Sgt. Kevin McDaniel



Staff Sgt. Michael Kailian



Sgt. Clayton Sutrick



Staff Sgt. Serjio Pruneda



Sgt. Alan Kirk



Sgt. Pat Azan

# Man on the street

## What do you like most about the Panama City community?



**Steve Wallace**  
*Visual Information Services photographer*  
“I really like the friendly small-town atmosphere.”



**Henry Bohler**  
*Trend Western supply technician*  
“It’s a close-knit town — I can go anywhere and run into people I know.”



**Airman 1st Class Amy Lopez**  
*325th Security Forces Squadron patrolman*  
“The community is always willing to give Team Tyndall members support — especially in regards to children.”



**Senior Airman Richard Bribiesca**  
*325th SFS combat arms instructor*  
“I like the safe atmosphere — people look out for one another.”



**Staff Sgt. Raquel Millan**  
*Health and Wellness Center NCOIC, information management*  
“The atmosphere is great for raising children.”



**Master Sgt. Jeanette Schubert**  
*325th Comptroller Squadron customer service chief*  
“They support the military.”

# Panama City is more than white sand beaches

**Staff Sgt. John Asselin**  
*325th Fighter Wing public affairs*

When people think of Panama City, they usually associate it with white sand beaches and plenty of sun. But Panama City is much more than that — Panama City is people.

I arrived here about two years ago and was immediately taken by the people who fill this community. I grew up in a northern big city, so the people I met here were very different from what I was used to.

First of all, I found extreme politeness from the moment I hit town. Everyone here is friendly, from the clerk at the electric company, to the cashiers at the gas stations. Even the teen-agers working at the fast food restaurants say “thank you” and “please.” They even call me “sir” instead of “dude” or “man.” This sort of thing is unheard of in a big city.

You find friendly people wherever you look here. Imagine the look on my face when the cashier at the grocery store called me “sweetheart” and started up a conversation with me about how I was getting along. Then when I went to get an apartment, my

landlady — who doesn’t call me “sweetheart,” she calls me “hon” — baked me cookies and cornbread, because “you can’t get real cornbread up north.”

I often hear people refer to Panama City as “backward” — I’ll admit I’ve said it too — but it’s just a slower, more relaxed way of life.

I just got back from a four-month “vacation” in the Middle East, and I actually missed

**The people of Panama City treat us like honored guests, at the same time accepting us as one of their own.**

people driving slowly in the fast lane. I missed the guys in the bar spending hours discussing

whether Florida or Florida State was better. I missed sweet tea and grits. I missed being called “sweetheart” and “hon.” I honestly missed “backward” Panama City.

There are bases out there where the locals hate Air Force people. They are treated horribly, and can’t even go to some areas. The community here couldn’t be kinder. The people of Panama City treat us like honored guests, at the same time accepting us as one of their own.

I’m still a big-city boy at heart, but I will always remember my time here fondly. When I leave here, I guarantee I will miss my good friend — Panama City.

# Don't forget



Daylight-saving  
time begins 2 a.m.  
Sunday. Don't  
forget to set your  
clocks ahead one hour.

# Gulf Coast Salute 2000 sponsors

The 325th Services Squadron events (regatta, fun run, participant welcome, and the Super Shockwave jet-powered truck) are sponsored in part by:

•Platinum sponsors - \$3,000 or more — **maingate.com**, **Bay County Chamber of Commerce Military Affairs**

**Committee**

•Gold sponsors - \$1,000 to \$3,000 — **Tyndall Federal Credit Union**, **Teco Peoples Gas**

•Silver sponsors - \$500 to \$1,000 — **Bellsouth Telecommunications Inc.**, **Neubauer Real Estate Inc.**

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Editorial content is edited, prepared and provided by the public affairs office at Tyndall. All photographs are U.S. Air Force photos unless otherwise noted.

The deadline for article submissions to the *Gulf Defender* is 4 p.m. Friday, prior to the week of publication unless otherwise noted. Articles must be typed and double-spaced, preferably on a 3.5-inch disc. Stories should be submitted directly to the public affairs office, Building 662, Room 129, or mailed to: 325 FW/PAI, 445 Suwannee Ave., Tyndall AFB, FL, 32403-5425. Public affairs staff members edit all material for accuracy, brevity, clarity, conformity to regulations and journalistic style. The delivery of the *Gulf Defender* to Tyndall base housing sections is provided by the *Panama City News Herald*.

For more information, or to advertise in the newspaper, call (850) 747-5000.

## Safety stats

Category	'00	'99	Trend
On duty	0	0	0
Off duty	2	1	+1
Traffic	0	0	0
Sports	0	1	-1
Fatalities	0	0	0
DUIs	3	5	-2



# AAHF brings the story of Army aviation to Tyndall's doorstep

**2nd Lt. Catie Devlin**  
*325th Fighter Wing*  
*public affairs*

The Army Aviation Heritage Foundation, a non-profit public educational organization, is scheduled to re-enact a Vietnam airfield attack 11:50 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Saturday during Tyndall's Gulf Coast Salute 2000.

Combined with narration, music, pyrotechnics and precision flying, a team of four to five Army aviation veterans will demonstrate the air-cavalry missions conducted daily during Vietnam.

"The foundation's purpose and mission is dedicated to presenting the story of Army aviation to the American people through the men, women and machines that helped make aviation history," said John Woodward, AAHF president. "We accomplish this through a series of annual demonstrations and static displays at public events throughout the country, using the actual aircraft and equipment operated by veterans who served in Army aviation. We take the story of aviation to the doorstep of America."

Created in 1997, the AAHF is the only known non-profit, veteran-oriented organization that is totally dedicated to the acquisition, restoration and preservation of historic Army aircraft in flyable condition. The aircraft represent all eras from World War II to present day.

"We currently have 14 aircraft on hand," Woodward said. "One from WWII, three from Korea, nine from Vietnam and one from post-Vietnam." The foundation's fleet is growing rapidly, but is constantly searching to expand its inventory of Army aircraft.

For Tyndall's air show, the AAHF will highlight their OH-6A light-observation

helicopter, AH-1P Bell Cobra attack helicopter and UH-1H Bell Iroquois 'Huey' during the Vietnam airfield-attack demonstration.

"We'll be using the three helicopters regularly seen in Vietnam during air cavalry missions," said Steve Maulpin, Confederate Air Force explosive ordnance detachment member. "We've been working closely with the people at Tyndall, and are excited to bring them our show — it's going to be great."

Most importantly, the AAHF has been working with Tyndall's safety experts. "Our job was to analyze the types and the quantity of materials they'll be using for the pyrotechnics portion of the demonstration," said Master Sgt. Rockford Johnson, Gulf Coast Salute explosive-safety coordinator. "Placement of the charges is key to ensuring public safety, without taking the thrill out of it.

"You can't have an 'Arnold movie' without explosions — you shouldn't have an air show without them either," Johnson said. "The

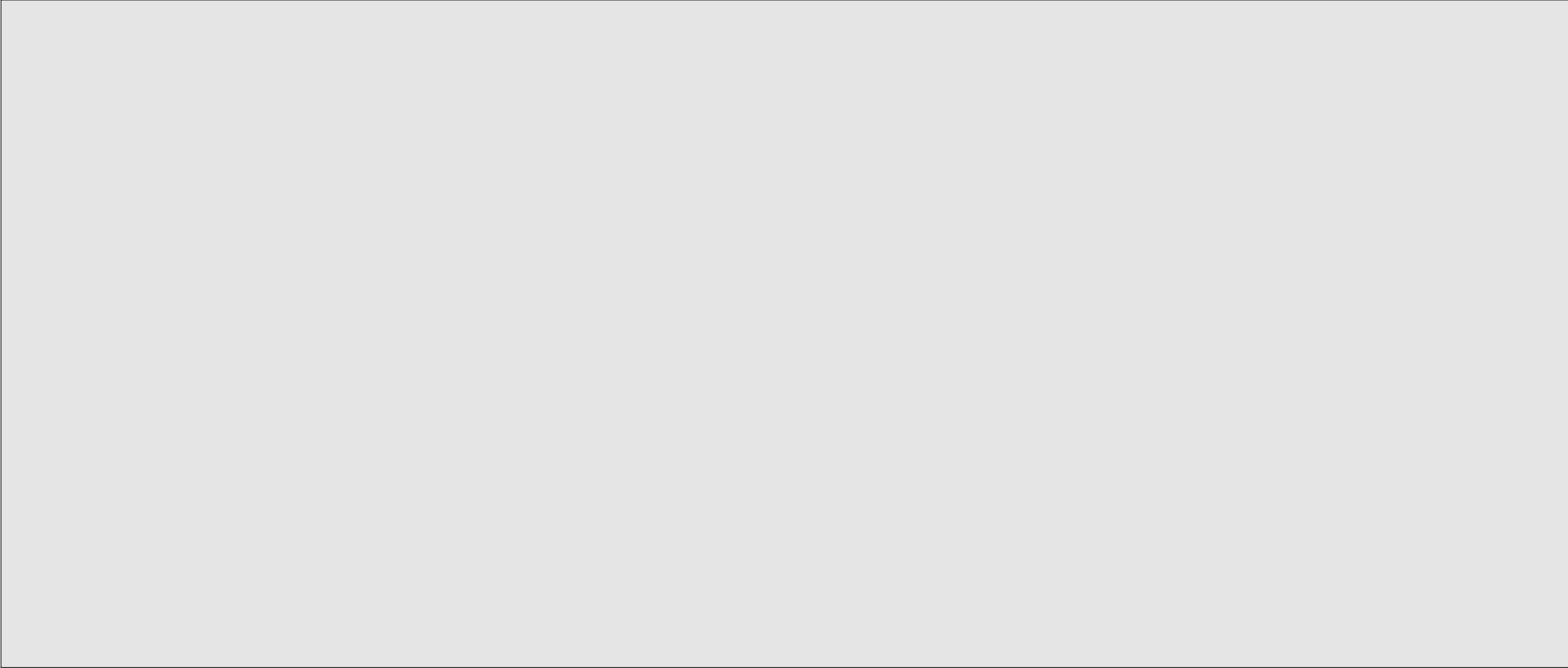
Vietnam demo will definitely add pizzazz to this year's Gulf Coast Salute."

**The Army Aviation Heritage Foundation Vietnam airfield-attack re-enactment will be 11:50 a.m. Saturday at air show center.**



Photo courtesy of the Army Aviation Heritage Foundation

**An OH-6A light-observation helicopter, much like the one pictured above, will be part of the Army Aviation Heritage Foundation's Vietnam airfield-attack demonstration. This helicopter will also be available to see as a static display during the air show.**





# Safety, air-show fun go hand-in-hand

**Staff Sgt. John Garner**  
*325th Fighter Wing  
safety office*

This year’s Gulf Coast Salute, the first one of the new millen-nium, is guaranteed to be great fun for everyone. But before packing your family in the car to come see all of the static displays and air demonstrations, there are a few guidelines you should know to keep your day safe.

- Preparations**
- Wear clothing that is comfort-able and suitable to the weather. Of course the most important item is sturdy but comfortable foot-wear. Remember you will be doing a lot of walking.
  - Sun protection is vital down here in Florida. Remember there is little if any shade available on the flightline. This means one thing — lots of sunscreen. Wear a hat (straw, baseball cap) to

- protect you from the sun.
- Drink fluids throughout your visit to the show. To prevent dehydration, there will be plenty of booths selling drinks through-out the entire day. There will also be two water tanks filled with drinking water. You may bring your own beverages, but glass bottles and coolers are not allowed for safety and security reasons.
- Travel**
- Remember as you load the

- family up to ensure everyone, including the back seat passen-gers, are using seatbelts. Seatbelt use is mandatory on Tyndall. Also, the base prohibits people to ride in the beds of pickup trucks.
- Open House**
- Tyndall’s flightline is consid-ered an industrial area with many hazards. Please keep to the marked areas to prevent straying off into hazardous areas. All hazardous areas are marked with signs for your protection.
  - Use extreme caution when walking around and under the static display aircraft. There are many different projections that hang down from the aircraft that can cause severe injuries if walked into. There will be numerous medical stations if anyone gets injured.
  - All static display aircraft are full of jet fuel, therefore smoking is not permitted near them. This rule is important; please respect it

- for the safety of all of our visitors.
- Please use the trash cans located around the areas. This will be prevent any of the static aircraft, as well as our F-15s, from ingesting any foreign objects and causing damage to the engines.
  - Alcoholic beverages will be sold at some of the booths. Please have a plan; use a desig-nated driver if you wish to drink.
- One of the most important considerations was left for last — your children. There will be a lot of people at the open house. Small children can easily get lost, so we ask you to keep a cautious eye on your children. Please don’t let them do anything that looks unsafe.
- Again, these safety guidelines are here for a reason, so please let’s follow them and have a great and safe Open House 2000. See you at the air show.

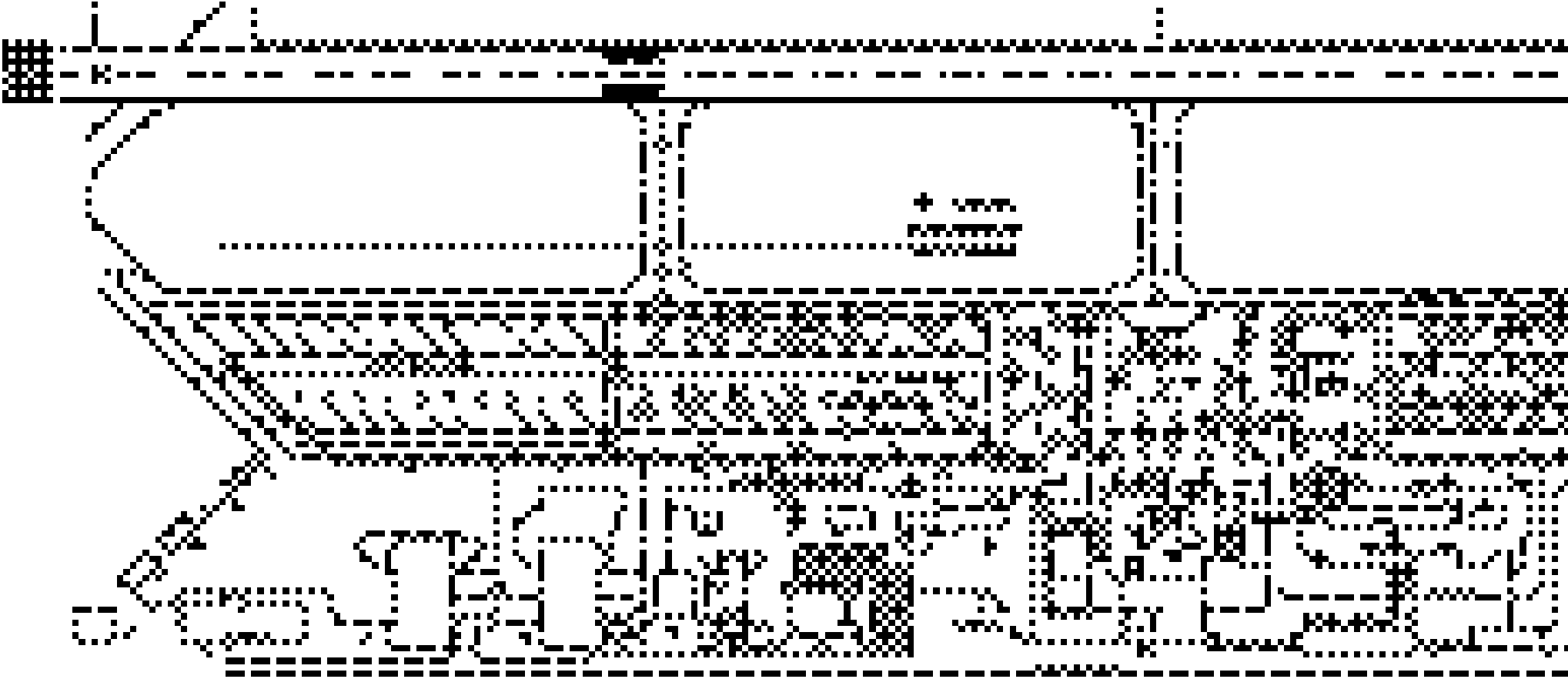


Tech. Sgt. Liza A. Sanders

## Pre-flight smiles

Lori Crouch, News Channel 7 newscaster, and Lt. Col. Joseph Breen, 2nd Fighter Squadron director of operations officer, prepare to head out to the flightline March 23 for her ride in an F-15. Crouch received the media flight to promote Gulf Coast Salute 2000 and to allow the media and public an opportunity to see the Team Tyndall mission up close.



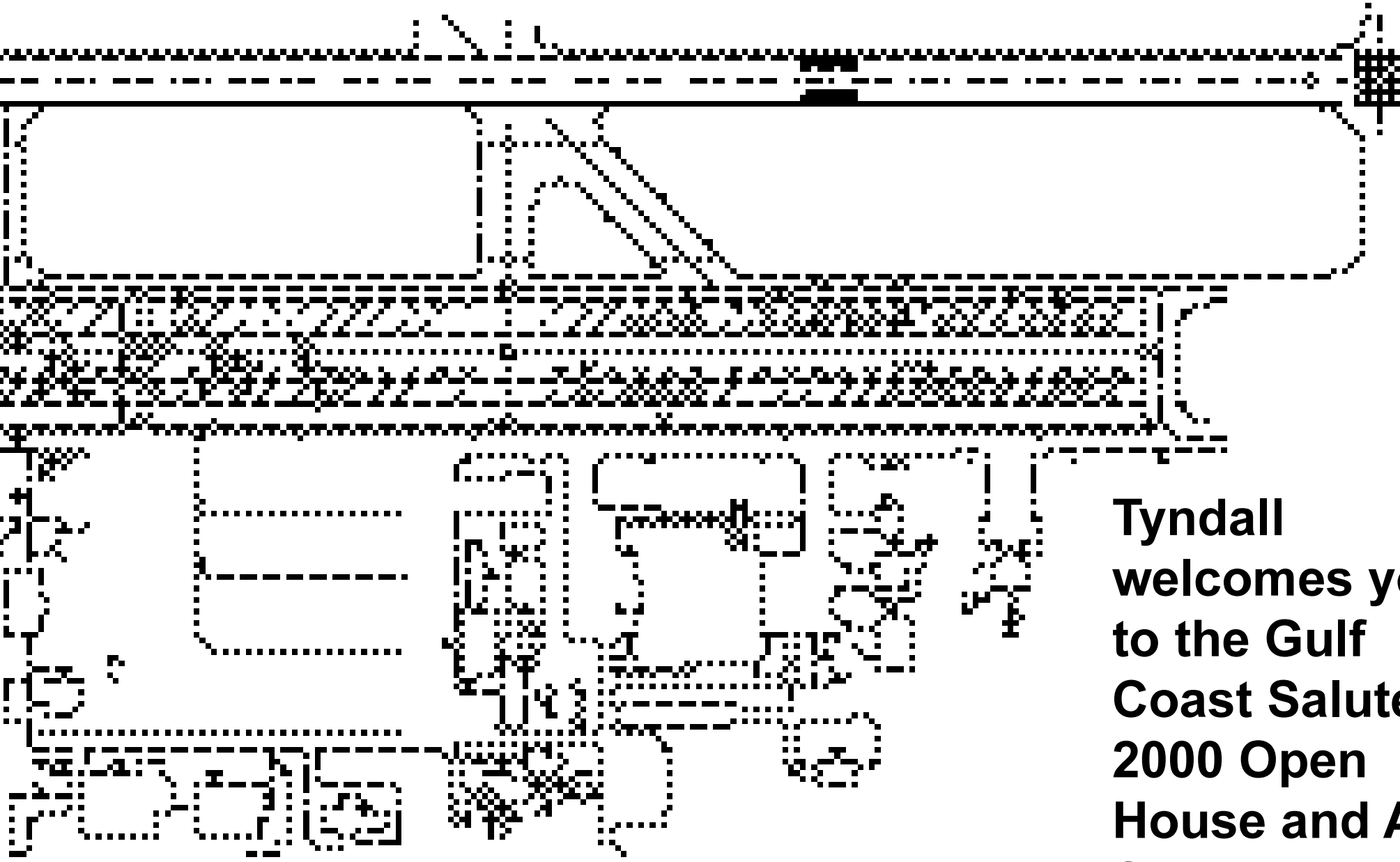


# Tyndall Gulf Coast Salute 2000 schedule of events

*(Editor's note: Times are subject to change.)*

Times	Event	Location	Air Show
8 a.m.	Fun Run	Starts at Maxwell Flag Park	
9 a.m.	Gates open to the public	Show center	
10 a.m.	Welcome ceremonies — Opening remarks presented by <b>Brig. Gen. Walter E. Buchanan III</b> , 325th Fighter Wing commander	Show center	
10:10 a.m.	National Anthem — <b>2nd Lt. Dolly A. Dimke</b> , 325th Training Squadron and Flag jump/fly-by	Show center and aerial demonstration	
10:15 a.m.	Golden Knights	Show center and aerial demonstration	
10:45 a.m.	B-17, B-24 and B-25	Aerial demonstration	Yak-3
10:55 a.m.	P-47	Aerial demonstration	Sea Fury
11:05 a.m.	North American Aerobatic Team	Aerial demonstration	Star Duster
11:25 a.m.	Yak-3	Aerial demonstration	P-47
11:35 a.m.	Super Shockwave jet truck/ Yak-3 Race	Show center and aerial demonstration	TS-11
11:50 a.m.	Airfield Attack/Vietnam Experience	Show center	L-29 Dolphin
12:35 p.m.	Load crew/Working dogs/Remote control modelers	Show center	B-24
1:40 p.m.	Star Duster	Aerial demonstration	B-17
1:50 p.m.	Star Duster/Jet truck race	Show center and aerial demonstration	OH-6
2:15 p.m.	Golden Knights (baton pass)	Show center and aerial demonstration	AH-1P
2:55 p.m.	Dolphin helicopter	Aerial demonstration	CV-2
3:05 p.m.	Sea Fury	Aerial demonstration	OH-58A+
3:10 p.m.	F-117 Fly-by/Landing	Aerial demonstration	T-41B
3:20 p.m.	F-15 Demonstration Team	Aerial demonstration	UH-1H
3:45 p.m.	F-15, A-10 and P-47 Heritage fly-by	Aerial demonstration	T-42
3:55 p.m.	A-10 Demonstration Team	Aerial demonstration	O-1/L-19
5 p.m.	Gates Close	End of Air Show	





# Tyndall welcomes you to the Gulf Coast Salute 2000 Open House and Air Show

# how static displays

T-6	C-130	F-15
O-2	C-141	F-16
A-4D Skyraider	C-17	
HH-65	E-3	
HU-25	E-8C	
HH-60	EC-130	
C-9	F-117	
F-14	QF-4	
F-18	KC-135	
B-25	C-31	
T-37	T-1	
OA-10	UH-60	
AT-38	Yak-9	
T-38	Yak-18	
B-1B	T-37	
B-52		

*Editor's note: Crew members will be available at most of the static displays to answer any questions.*

The Trend Western Technical Corp. will be providing shuttle bus transportation for the Gulf Coast Salute Saturday. There will be several routes provided throughout the base for the convenience of those attending the festivities on the flightline. To help alleviate traffic and parking congestion on the main base and flightline, a shuttle-bus service will be provided for all occupants in base housing (Fam-camp patrons can utilize the Shoal Point bus stop.) An adult must accompany all children under the age of 12. Trend Western personnel ask that you limit carry-on items to a minimum (small backpacks, umbrella strollers, etc.). Any items left on the buses will be taken to vehicle operations (Building 560, 283-4872) during the day of the air show and turned over to law enforcement (Building 659) Monday. The shuttle-bus service will start at 9 a.m. and run continuously until 6 p.m. Drop-off and pick-up points are as follows:

Shuttle bus A <i>Shoal Point</i>	Shuttle bus B <i>Felix Lake</i>	Shuttle bus C <i>Public parking areas</i>
A-1 Jefferson/Grant	B-1 Prime Beef/Andrews	C-1 Parking areas
<i>Bay View</i>	Loop	one and two
A-2 Roosevelt/Taylor	B-2 Andrews Loop/Felix	C-2 Parking area
A-3 Lincoln/Monroe	Lake	three, four and
A-4 Lincoln/Harding	<i>Wood Manor</i>	five
A-5 Fam-camp	B-3 Sentry/Sabre	C-3 Parking area
Air show	B-4 Thunderchief/Sabre	six
	B-5 Thunderchief/Eagle	Air show
	B-6 Phantom/Eagle	
	B-7 Falcon/Eagle	
	B-8 Bomarc/Falcon	
	B-9 Youth Center	
	Air show	

# Features

## WASP

### Local woman does her part for WWII, AF by serving as Women's Airforce Service Pilot

**Senior Airman Oshawn Jefferson**

*325th Fighter Wing  
public affairs*

On Aug. 1, 1911, Harriet Quimby became the first female to receive her pilot's license in United States history, opening the door for women all over America. More than 17 years later, June 17, 1928, aviator Amelia Earhart became the first woman to cross the Atlantic by air.

The efforts of these women inspired women all over America, including Virginia Wise, formally Virginia Fisher. Wise would become one of the 1,500 women to serve as a Women's Airforce Service Pilot.

"I was one of the luckiest women alive," Wise said. "More than 15,000 women applied and I was fortunate to be picked out of the best-of-the-best female pilots at that time."

Wise was born in Lisbin, Ohio in 1922. Shortly after her birth, her family picked up and moved to Holidays Cove, W. Va.

As a girl, Wise was inspired to fly at an early age. Small bands of pilots called barnstormers, used to put on air shows to show people the wonder of airplanes. These pilots would often visit Wise's hometown.

"For a dollar they would take you for a plane ride," Wise said. "I loved it."

After seeing a biplane at one of these many barnstormer air shows, Wise decided she wanted to become a pilot.

With the support of her father, she took lessons from a pilot instructor named Bill Hunt, who was the 74th pilot in United States history to get his pilot's license. He taught her how to fly in a J-3 CUB, and she received her pilot's license in 1939.

"We did our practice flights over the Ohio River," Wise said. "It was always beautiful and thrilling."

Since there were not any jobs for female pilots in 1940, Wise decided to pursue a degree from a school in Pittsburgh, Pa. Three months before graduation, Wise heard news that would forever change her life.

"On December 7, 1941, I heard over the radio about the attack on Pearl Harbor," Wise said. "So I quit nursing to pursue an active role on the warfront as a pilot. I was hoping to get into some aerial combat to help America win the war."

Her efforts proved fruitless however, as the military said didn't have a need for female pilots.

By 1942, Wise's brother, James Fisher, had become a high-ranking pilot in the Air Transport Command and had learned of a record-breaking female pilot named Jackie Cochran, as well as a young Boston pilot named Nancy Harkness Love. These two women dreamed up the idea of a female flying squadron of pilots for the U.S. Army.

The women received independent grants to start their



Photos courtesy of Virginia Wise

**Virginia Wise poses in her uniform, as a member of the Women's Airforce Service Pilots during World War II.**

own female pilot-training squadrons with the Army. Joining forces, Love and Cochran began the Women's Airforce Service Pilots in Sweetwater, Texas, during the summer of 1943.

"When I heard of this, I knew I had to go," Wise said. "I got in touch with Ms. Cochran and, after she read my resume, I was accepted as a cadet in January of 1944."

To qualify for training, women had to have at least 500 flying hours and a high school education.

According to Wise, the instructor pilot for the school let it be known immediately that he did not like the idea of female pilots and wasn't going to make it easy on the new women trainees.

"He told us, 'I think the idea of women pilots stinks,' and he was very mean," Wise said. "But he didn't train us any differently than the men, so in that respect he was fair."

According to Wise, the female pilots all lived in barracks and had to be up and ready to fly by 9:30 a.m. every morning. They flew one, two-hour mission in the morning and one, two-hour mission in the evening.

"With the early mornings and late evenings it was tough," Wise said. "Out of the 1,500 girls who attended the school, only 1,000 graduated."

Wise graduated in October 1944 and was assigned to the 4th Air Force at McCarren Field, Nev. She began her career as a B-17 co-pilot, flying gun-camera troops around for training. Wise would never get to fly a P-39 in combat like she dreamed — the WASP was disbanded in December of 1944 — but she is proud of the time she spent with the Army.

"We were never really in the Army," Wise said. "We were paid like lieutenants, but we were still civilians. But when I see female pilots in the Air Force now, it makes me proud of what we accomplished."





# Team Tyndall F-15 IP, Hurlburt Field special ops chopper pilot show Air Force ...



## It takes two

**Staff Sgt. Mona Ferrell**  
325th Fighter Wing  
public affairs

The pilot of the MH-53M PAVE-LOW helicopter was already airborne when the call came in — a pilot had been shot down; one of our own. Rescue missions had been practiced time and time again, but this time it was real. Going straight to the coordinates given on the radio, the pilot flying the special operations helicopter flew through dense enemy fire. Quickly landing, the rescuer extended his arm, pulling the downed pilot into the chopper. The pilot's face, though scratched and bleeding, was instantly recognizable — it was his brother.

Although this scenario is fictitious, it could very well happen; brothers Jeff and Kent Landreth are both captains in the United States Air Force. Jeff is assigned as an F-15 instructor pilot with the 1st Fighter Squadron here, and Kent is a MH-53M PAVE-LOW helicopter pilot and weapons and tactics officer, assigned to the 16th Operations Group at Hurlburt Field. While most people may only think of fighter pilots when they think of the Air Force, both Jeff and Kent know it takes more than one type of pilot to win a war.

"Helicopter pilots live in a different world than fighter pilots," Jeff said. "We (F-15 fighter pilots) live high and fast and they live low and slow — but we both rely on each other and it's important to remember that."

The reality of this hit home during the Kosovo Conflict, Kent said. "I was sitting on alert, ready to provide combat search and rescue for the entire area of operations, when the call came in that an aircraft was going down," he said.

Since Kent was the flight lead, he organized everybody and quickly created a plan to rescue the downed pilot. "We had practiced scenarios like this, so we knew basically how we were going to complete the mission. Our response time was quick and we were airborne in a very short period of time."

The pilot, who was thought to have landed relatively close to Belgrade, Yugoslavia, was deep into hostile territory, Kent said. "We were engaged on numerous occasions by surface-to-air missiles, anti-aircraft artillery and small-arms fire before reaching the location where the pilot was supposed to be located, but he wasn't there." Receiving new coordinates, the rescuers were able to make direct contact with the downed F-16 pilot who helped guide them in. "The pickup went well, but we were racing against time. The sun was rising and it was allowing the Serbs to see us better."

Although multiple enemy assets again engaged the rescue choppers on their way back

to base, the mission was a success and no one was hurt. "There was damage to our aircraft, but other than that, everything went well," said Kent, who was awarded the Silver Star for his actions. "In fact, the survivor could have flown the very next night except that he lost his helmet."

Success stories like this are important to share, Jeff said, who's been flying F-15s throughout his Air Force career. "There's a lot of animosity between our two (pilot) communities," he said. "Being brothers, we're in a unique position to share our missions and our experiences with each other's community — we're trying to knock down some of the barriers between the two groups."

Sharing their job experiences has definitely helped knock down the barriers, agrees Kent, who has more than 2,200 hours of flying experience. "Letting the two groups know that we're all just operators doing the job has really helped. Now both groups are realizing that both of our missions are demanding — there's no such thing as 'we're better than you,' our jobs are just different," Kent said. "There might be a time and place where they may rely on us in some capacity, and we know that we rely on them, especially in the air superiority realm — without fighter pilots we're helpless."

Of course this reliance doesn't come without some brotherly kidding, Jeff said. "We constantly give each other a hard time, and there's nothing wrong with that. We both know when it comes down to the mission we need each other."

Even though the two brothers, who both graduated from the U.S. Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colo. in 1991, took different 'flight paths,' it allowed them the opportunity to fly against one another about two and a half years ago. "Jeff, who was stationed at Eglin AFB at the time, was doing low-altitude training against helicopters," Kent said. "So we got a chance to mix it up. Jeff's squadron of F-15s was trying to shoot us down and we were in helicopters doing our best to hide."

Sharing the same piece of sky was an outstanding opportunity, Jeff agreed. "It was great hearing each other's voice on the radio," he said. "We were going fast above them and they were down below moving slow, ducking our advances. That was the first time we've been able to do that."

It's experiences like that, which make us realize we have the best jobs in the world, Jeff said. "I left a very good civilian university to go to the academy and join the Air Force, and I don't regret any of it," he said. "In the Air Force, I have a lot of responsibilities, constant opportunities to enhance my leadership skills and I get to do a job I love — it's an experience you can't find outside of the Air Force. I wouldn't trade my job for anything."



2nd Lt. Catie Devlin

Above: Capt. Jeff Landreth, F-15 instructor pilot, right, stands in front of a MH-53M PAVE-LOW helicopter with his brother, Capt. Kent Landreth, 16th Operations Group helicopter pilot and weapons and tactics officer, Hurlburt Field.

Right: Jeff shows Kent the heads-up display on one of Tyndall's F-15s.



Staff Sgt. Mona Ferrell

Starting at 3:20 p.m. Saturday, there will be aerial demonstrations featuring the F-15. Static displays will include the F-15E, F-16 and a number of helicopters. For more information, see *Pages 10 and 11.*

# Team Tyndall, Bay County ‘volunteer’ to make a difference

**Tech. Sgt. Sean E. Cobb**  
*325th Fighter Wing*  
*public affairs*

At the birth of our nation, when the Redcoats were coming, volunteers stepped forward and made a critical difference that still affects our lives today. Volunteers are still stepping forward right here in Bay County and making that critical difference.

At Tyndall, and in the local area, volunteers reach out to lend a helping hand to make the whole community a better place to live, said Ken Horton, 325<sup>th</sup> Mission Support Squadron relocation assistance specialist and Tyndall volunteer program coordinator.

“There are numerous examples of our communities coming together to get things done,” he said. “Some of these are done by individuals, some by groups, but they are all important.”

The following are a few of these examples over the past year.

**Special Olympics**

In March 1999 and then March 25 of this year, Tyndall held the Area II Special Olympics. In each of these Olympic events, there were more than 500 participants. More than 300 volunteers from Tyndall and the surrounding communities came together to guarantee a special time for everyone involved.

“We have a great history in this area with Special Olympics,” said Col. James H. Foster, 325th Medical Group commander. “We’ve been working together for many years now, and we hope to continue to do so for many more. It’s a real honor to pull together for such a worthy cause.”

Tyndall has sponsored the Area II Special Olympics since 1972.

**Caring By Sharing**

To assist the people of El Salvador after Hurricane Mitch devastated their country in November 1998, members of the 325th Operations Group weapons standardization flight spent 110 hours in April 1999, loading 160,000 pounds of rice donated by people through out Bay County.

“We double-stacked 123 pallets containing

80 tons of rice,” said Senior Master Sgt. Nathan M. Dixon, Tyndall’s assistant coordinator for Caring by Sharing. “It was an excellent opportunity to extend beyond our own community and assist individuals in need in another part of the world.”

In addition to these volunteers and the people who donated the rice, more than 11,000 Bay County residents contributed vastly to the success of Caring by Sharing, said Robert Tracy, Caring by Sharing project coordinator. The rice provided relief for 6,035 families, or 24,000 people, and Bay County’s efforts were noted by the World Headquarters Catholic Relief Services as the largest community-level relief project to date.

**Volunteers**

In 1999 volunteers at Tyndall, including military retirees and their spouses, active-duty members and dependent family members, contributed more than 32,000 hours of their time, which translates into a dollar savings of over \$172,000, Horton said.

“In this era of drawdowns and downsizing, that is a significant man-hour contribution,” he said. “However money is not the primary motivating factor. People don’t volunteer to save the government money or for the recognition, they volunteer because they want to make a difference,” Horton said. “Volunteers both on and off base care enough to contribute their time in improving the quality of life in their military and in the neighboring communities.”

**Coastal Cleanup**

During the International Coastal Cleanup in September 1999, more than 250 local-area volunteers participated in cleaning up approximately 2,500 pounds of garbage over more than 20 miles of beach on Tyndall, said Amy Tharp, 325th Civil Engineer Squadron environmental flight pollution-prevention manager.

“The coastal cleanup went very well. We had a great response from volunteers from all over,” she said. “This allowed us to clean up more areas and remove more garbage than we expected. Everyone involved really made a big difference.”

**Habitat for Humanity**

Since November 1999, 83 members of Team Tyndall devoted 525 combined hours to put roofs over the heads of people in the local community. “This is a way for members of Team Tyndall to give back to the community in which we live,” said 1st Lt. Lori Vessels, 325th Maintenance Squadron Quality Assurance Evaluation chief and Habitat for Humanity Company Grade Officer’s Council coordinator.

“More than 98 percent of the labor that goes into building these homes comes from volunteers in the local community and people who are receiving the homes — we are just happy to be able to help them out.”

**Tornado Cleanup**

When a tornado touched down in the Sand Hills area on Feb. 13, damaging more than 45 homes and one business, members of the 83rd Fighter Weapons Squadron pitched in to help clean up the damage. “This latest cleanup effort is indicative of how the members of our squadron work with our local community,” said Lt. Col. Ali Frohlich, 83rd FWS com-

mander. “Whether it’s working with special-needs children during the Special Olympics, handing out water bottles during the Iron Man competition or pitching in to clean up after a tornado, every member of the 83rd team is more than willing to pitch in and help out — that’s what being a part of a community is all about.”

These are just a few examples of how volunteers make our community a better place to live, and these examples don’t even take into account individual acts of volunteering — of which there are many, Horton said.

“We have volunteers from all over participate in Valentines for Vets, Visit the Vets, Red Cross and Salvation Army Programs, Partners in Education, Special Friends Christmas Party, the Golden Age Christmas Party, Special Olympics, and the list goes on and on,” he said. “The point is, when volunteers from communities unite together towards a common goal there is no limit to what they can do. That is what makes the relationship between the local area and Tyndall so special.”



Courtesy photo

## The need for speed

The ‘Super Shockwave Jet Truck’ exhibition is one of the many events that’s going to be at the Gulf Coast Salute 2000 airshow Saturday. The truck runs on 25,000 horsepower and has three times the power-to-weight ratio of the Navy’s F-14 Tomcat.



# Weapons load teams give the Eagle its bite

**Master Sgt. Rob Fuller**  
*325th Fighter Wing*  
*public affairs*

Somewhere in the world an F-15 Eagle is entangled in a fierce air-to-air battle. Suddenly, air superiority pays

off as it locks on to its prey. Seconds later an AIM-9 Sidewinder heat-seeking missile leaves its launcher rail, ready to do business — mission accomplished for the pilot and another of many success stories for the weapons load team back at the base.

During battle this scenario occurs many times each day, but each successful weapons launch is just as important as the last for the men and women who load the missiles on the jet.

“The feeling of loading up a jet, launching it and watching it come back with no weapons attached — it’s just a sense of pride,” said Staff Sgt. Keith M. Cavanaugh, 325th Operations Group weapons standardization instructor weapons and load crew member.

Each team consists of three members who are assigned specific tasks that must be done precisely and quickly in order to get a jet back in the

air — ready to deliver another blow if needed. During an integrated combat turn, the time standard for load teams is 45 minutes from start to finish to load its full complement of weapons, Cavanaugh said.

“It’s one of the few jobs where you work as a crew, which to me is one of the best things you can do ... three people working together to accomplish the same goal with different duties, but together we get it accomplished. There’s nothing better in my eyes than being able to accomplish the mission not only for yourself, but for the other team members too,” said Staff Sgt. Tim B. Sevigny, 325th OG weapons standardization

instructor and a seven-year weapons load crew veteran.

The team chief’s duty is to supervise the loading process and closely monitor safety practices. The number two person is responsible for preparing the left side of the aircraft for weapons and installing impulse cartridges. The cartridges, which are small cylindrical objects, fire like shotgun shells, separating the missile from the aircraft. The third crew member prepares the right side and then inspects the missiles to be loaded.

AIM-9 Sidewinder missiles are loaded by hand, while AIM-120 AMRAAM and AIM-7 Sparrow are loaded using the MJ-1 bomb lift, better known as a “jammer,” Sevigny said. “Each aircraft can be loaded with different weapons configurations, depending on the type of mission to be flown.”

Initial weapons-crew training is held at Sheppard Air Force Base, Texas and lasts approximately three months. Air Force members trained in this specialty aren’t limited to one type of aircraft. Following specialized airframe training, airmen can be assigned duties loading fighters, bombers, helicopters or gunships.

Training and evaluation is a never-ending cycle in the life of a weapons specialist, Sevigny said. The 20 load teams assigned to four squadrons at Tyndall complete initial certification on all three weapons used here; the AIM-7, 9 and 120. Each month they must undergo proficiency training and then must pass a quarterly evaluation.

But all work and no play can take its toll. The four squadrons hold competitions each quarter, Sevigny said. The quarterly winners compete for honors as the best load team on Tyndall.

However, the job itself is reward enough for most weapons specialists. “Getting to work with electronics, jet aircraft and powerful weapons... most folks don’t get a chance to do something like that, it’s a very interesting job,” said Staff Sgt. Kirk J. McManious, , 325th OG weapons standardization instructor and load crew chief.

Teamwork is a principle followed throughout the Air Force, and weapons load teams live by its proven success, said McManious. “Our motto reflects our pride in the mission. Without us, they’re (F-15s) just another scheduled airlines,” he said.



Photos by Master Sgt. Rob Fuller  
From left to right: Staff Sgt. Jody Forcha, 325th Operations Group Weapons and Standardization weapons load crew member, and Staff Sgt. Kevin Cummings, 325th OG weapons and standardization weapons-load crew chief, secure an AIM-7 Sparrow missile to an F-15 Eagle.



Tech. Sgt. Wayne Warner, 325th Weapons and Standardization load crew member, back, uses the MJ-1 bomb lift or “jammer” to maneuver an AIM-7 into place, while Cummings guides the missile.

**A weapons load crew will demonstrate their team work 12:35 p.m. Saturday at air show center.**

# A-10 demo team, ‘warthogging’ the airspace

## A-10 team demonstrates to Tyndall, Bay County that it’s no lie, pigs can fly

Courtesy of the 12th Air Force public affairs office

The West Coast A-10 Demonstration Team will perform as part of Tyndall’s Gulf Coast Salute 2000 Saturday.

The team is part of the 355th Wing based at Davis-Monthan AFB, Ariz., and is one of two A-10 demonstration teams in Air Combat Command. In exhibitions across the continent, the team shows why the A-10 Warthog is heralded as the world’s premier close air support fighter. The performance showcases the jet’s outstanding maneuverability at both high and low speeds.

From its home in the Arizona Sonoran Desert, the team brings the power and pride of the United States Air Force to crowds across the nation, said Lt. Col. Jeffrey D. Lowery, West Coast A-10 Demonstration Team commander.

In the upcoming months, the demonstration team will perform more than 50 shows throughout the United States and Canada. The team consists of personnel from the 354th, 357th and 358th fighter squadrons.

Air Combat Command sponsors two A-10 demonstration teams; the other is located at Pope AFB, N.C.

The A-10 dominated enemy ground forces in Iraq during Desert Storm and Desert Shield, and more recently, has helped with the peacekeeping efforts in Bosnia and the enforcement of United Nations resolutions in the Middle East.

“Our job is to show communities across America the quality of people and aircraft their tax dollars are paying for,” Lowery said. “The good people of America like to know how their money is being spent, and it’s our job to show them. While it is difficult to show the actual combat capabilities of the A-10 Thunderbolt II, our demonstration gives people a feel for how amazing the aircraft really is,” he said.

Lowery was chosen as the demonstration pilot on the merits of his experience, maturity and ability in the cockpit. When not flying demonstrations, he is an instructor pilot with the 358th Fighter Squadron.

Lowery puts the fighter through a series of maneuvers



Courtesy photo

The 12th Air Force West Coast A-10 Demonstration Team, who will appear as part of the Tyndall Gulf Coast Salute 2000 Saturday. From left to right: Master Sgt. Eileen Pattarozzi, Senior Airman Carlo Monticolo III, Staff Sgt. Adrian Hitz, Maj. James Marks, 1st Lt. Todd Henninger, Lt. Col. Jeffrey Lowery, Capt. Robert Brogan, Airman 1st Class Calvin Dingle, Staff Sgt. Richard Lopez, Senior Airman Dan Gonzalez and Staff Sgt. Steven Sepeda.

not unlike the ones used to gain and keep control of enemy ground forces in the Middle East. “Our demonstration allows us the opportunity to show the public the awesome power and maneuverability of the A-10,” Lowery said.

The technicians who keep the Warthog airborne are crucial to any flying operation. “This is a great opportunity to represent the Air Force by taking our jobs on the road. We are able to show the public what we do on a day-to-day basis and how it impacts the total Air Force mission,” said Staff Sgt. Richard Lopez, A-10 Demonstration Team maintenance crew

member. The overall long-term success of the aircraft is a tribute to the maintainers of the equipment and planes.

“Members of the demonstration team are a good example of the quality of people we have in today’s Air Force,” said Master Sergeant Eileen Pattarozzi, A-10 Demonstration Team NCOIC.

Other members of the eleven-person team include narrators Maj. James Marks, Capt. Robert Brogan and 1st Lt. Todd Henninger. The team’s assistant NCOICs are Staff Sgts. Richard Lopez, Steven Sepeda and Adrian Hitz.

Senior Airmen Daniel Gonzalez and Carlo Monticolo III, and Airmen 1st Class Calvin Dingle

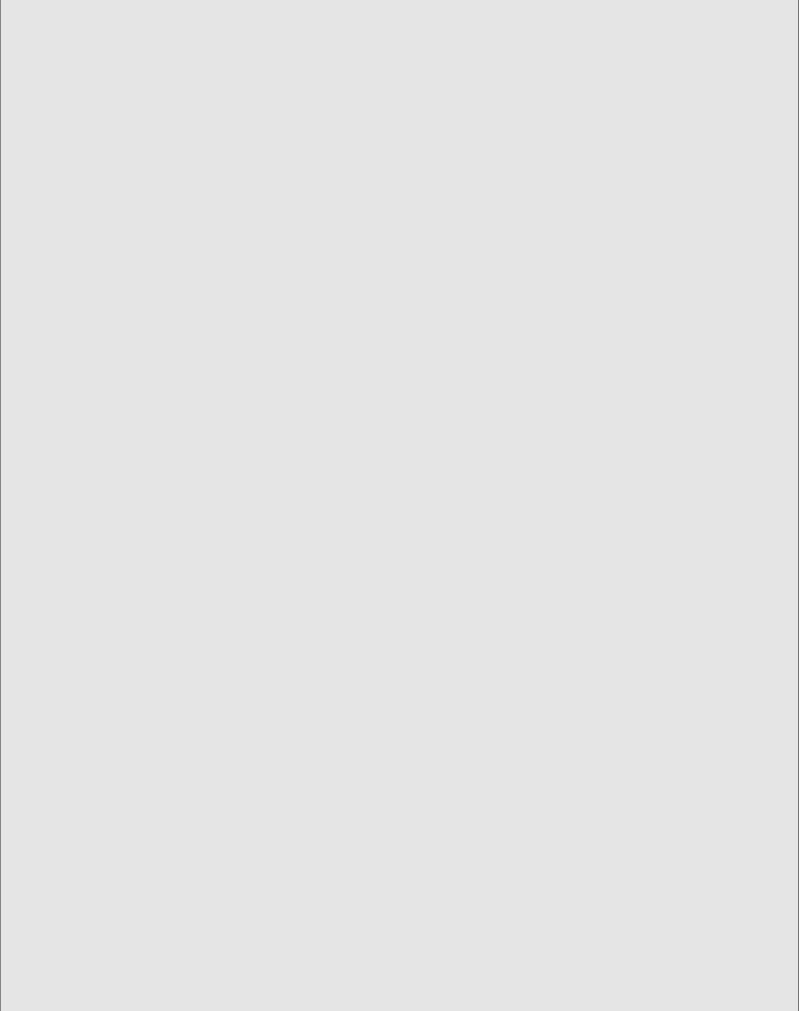
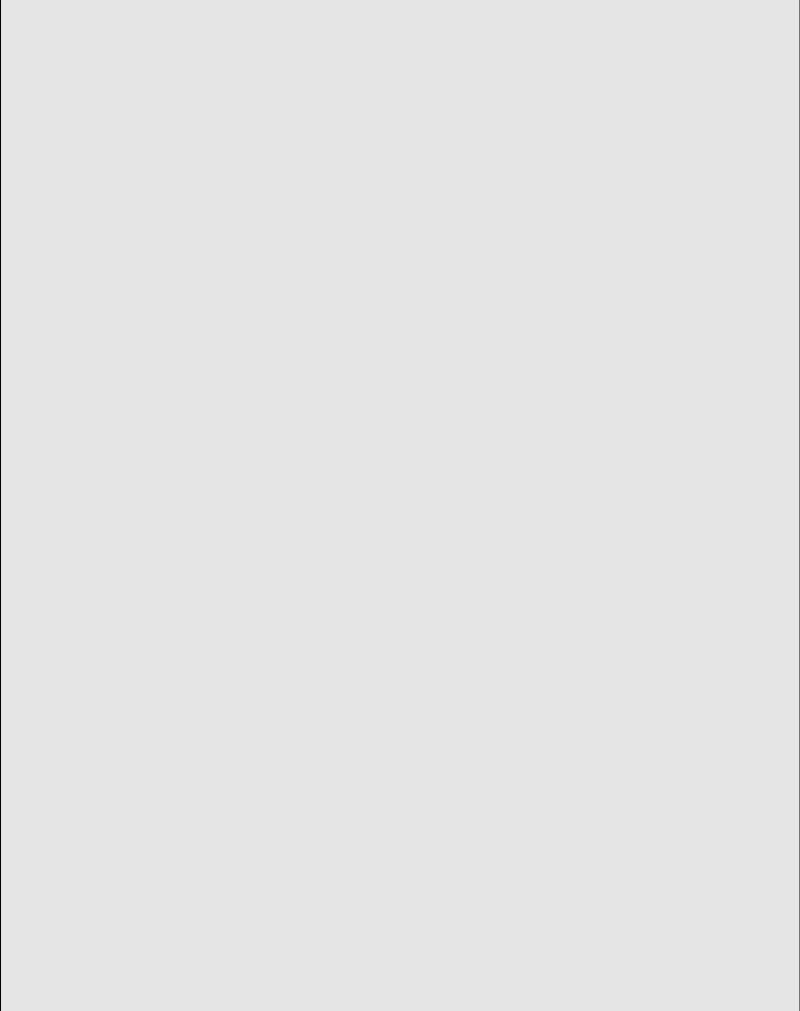
round out the team’s maintenance crew.

Everyone is excited about the chance to share Air Force pride with the nation. This select unit was handpicked to represent the 355th Wing, 12th Air Force and ACC, Pattarozzi said. “Our team is excited about this opportunity to meet the public and show them what the Air Force is all about,” he said.

**The A-10, F-15 and P-47 will be highlighted during a heritage fly-by at 3:45 p.m. Saturday. The A-10 demonstration will be at 3:55 p.m.**

### Did you know? Tyndall facts

- Tyndall Air Force base is named after Frank B. Tyndall, a Florida native credited with five aerial enemy kills during World War I.
- The base officially opened its gates on Dec. 7, 1941, the same day Pearl Harbor was attacked.
- From inception, Tyndall’s primary mission has been training air and ground crew for air superiority roles.
- On Feb. 23, 1942 Tyndall began a six-week gunnery course designed to teach the basic operation of the machine gun, shotgun, aircraft turrets, sighting procedures and recognizing bullet patterns.
- By the end of World War II, Tyndall Field was graduating 400 aerial gunners per week.





# Military working dogs; ‘Taking a bite out of crime’

Man’s best friend uses keen sense of smell to save lives, valuable resources in community

**2nd Lt. Catie Devlin**  
325th Fighter Wing  
public affairs

Although they wear a badge around their neck, the nine millimeter pistol is not their weapon of choice. Instead, Tyndall’s military working dogs rely on a keen sense of smell to fight crime.

“Out of the six Belgian Malinois dogs assigned to Tyndall, half are trained in narcotic detection while the other half are trained in explosives,” said Tech. Sgt. Jeff Duggins, 325th Security Forces Squadron kennelmaster and trainer.

All narcotic and explosive-detection dogs are also dual-certified in patrol. “While patrolling, they look for just about anything out of the ordinary and have the ability to respond aggressively to all types of criminal behavior — not just bombs and drugs,” he said.

The dogs’ responsibilities range from building checks and car searches to assisting in solving criminal cases. “We use the dogs to conduct periodic bomb checks of facilities around the base, apprehend criminals, run counter-drug operations on detained vehicles and aid the Office of Special Investigations and local agencies with their investigations,” Duggins said.

A military working dog’s 11 to 12 year career begins while still with the breeder. “When we receive the dogs from breeders they have already been taught to bite, sit on detection of an odor and not be afraid of gun fire,” he said. How-

ever, even though these dogs are acquired with some basic job knowledge, the training process takes years.

“The dogs are first evaluated and must meet all the necessary criteria before even entering the training program,” Duggins said. Once accepted into the program, they go through a six-week course in patrol. “In this course, the dogs learn how to do everything we need them to do — attack, bite, pull, stand-off, search buildings and scout,” he said. “At the end, the dogs are tested to see which they are better suited for — narcotics or explosives.”

The second six-week course focuses on

**“Out of the six Belgian Malinois dogs assigned to Tyndall, half are trained in narcotic detection while the other half are trained in explosives.”**  
Tech. Sgt. Jeff Duggins

detection work. “Those chosen to be narcotic dogs are trained to sit when they smell one of five specific drugs, while those chosen to be bomb dogs are trained to sit when they smell one of nine specific explosives,” Duggins said. Their sense of smell and ability to respond to these specified odors determines their success in the career field.

In both drug and bomb identification, theirs is a passive response. “The dogs sit down when they smell one of the 14 odors they are trained to detect,” Duggins said.

According to Duggins, after completing the six-week patrol course and six-week detection course, the dogs are assigned to one military base for their entire career. “There, the dogs are paired up with military working dog handlers and constantly participate in on-the-job training — the dogs get steadily better over the years,” Duggins said.

Military dog-and-handler teams remain together until the handler moves on to another base. “As long as the handler is stationed here he has the same dog,” Duggins said. “When the handler leaves, the dog is as-



2nd Lt. Catie Devlin

**Senior Airman Matt Howard, 325th Security Forces Squadron military dog handler, and military dog, Waldo, demonstrate a K-9 attack.**

signed a new partner. It is difficult at first, but just as military personnel are used to continuous change, so are military dogs.”

Tyndall’s K-9 unit not only patrols and secures the base, but also works with the local community. “We respond to an 110-mile radius around Tyndall and assist in training dogs for Panama City, the Bay County Sheriff’s office, Mexico Beach, Panama City Beach and the gulf coast area,” Duggins said. “We are a close community — the local agencies help us and we help them.”

This involvement with the community can also enhance a dog

handler’s training. “Working with other agencies gives me a chance to increase my knowledge of K-9 handling,” said Senior Airman Kerry O. Warren, 325th SFS military working-dog handler.

“The K-9 unit keeps Tyndall’s mission going,” Duggins said. “Although the Air Force spends about \$2,500 per dog, military working dogs prevent drugs and bombs from destroying lives and valuable resources.”

**The military working dog demonstration will be 12:35 p.m. Saturday at stage center.**

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# Gulf Coast Salute Regatta boats race the wind

14 sailboats race for trophies, fun in Tyndall event

**Tech. Sgt. Sean E. Cobb**  
*325th Fighter Wing public affairs*

With fair winds and plenty of sun, 14 sailboats with 50 crewmembers set sail noon Saturday racing in this year’s Gulf Coast Salute Regatta.

The Regatta, sponsored by the Beacon Beach Marina Club, got off to an excellent start with the winds breezing eight-10 knots out of the south, said Stan Hussey, 325th Services Squadron Beacon Beach Marina Club assistant manager. “From start to finish, the conditions on the water were excellent. We all really had a great time out here,” he said.

There were numerous spectators on hand to cheer on the boats as they started and crossed the finish line, Hussey said.

This year’s race was for Class C boats only, however there were a few other boats that raced the course for fun and practice. Class C boats are larger cruising boats that range from 21-40 feet in

length.

Using national regatta rules, the boats started from the Beacon Beach Marina Club, sailed the race course of 11.8 nautical miles, and finished back in front of the club. The winners this year are:

- First place - **John Lewis**  
Finish time - 2 hours, 12 minutes  
Boat name - Slowbell  
Boat type - 33 foot Mirage sloop
- Second place - **Mike Corbett**  
Finish time - 2 hours, 35 minutes  
Boat name - Blue Raven  
Boat type - 23 foot Ranger sloop
- Third place - **George Greenauer**  
Finish time - 2 hours, 42 minutes  
Boat name - Mary Mink II  
Boat type - 23.5 foot Hunter sloop

The first-place winner received a nine-inch engraved silver cup, the second-place winner a five-inch engraved silver cup and the third-place winner a three-inch engraved silver cup.

The last boat crossed the finish line at 4 hours and 38 minutes. The awards dinner was served at 6 p.m., and Mike Gervais, the commodore of the yacht club, made the awards presentation after dinner.

“This year’s race was a real success,” Hussey said. “We all had a good time and we are just looking forward to doing this again next year.”



Photo by Sandy Thompson

Sailboats racing in the Gulf Coast Salute Regatta Saturday had excellent conditions to sail. The weather cooperated, winds for the day were from eight to 10 knots and the average speed of the boats was four to seven knots. The race was the first event for the Gulf Coast Salute Open House and Air Show. This was the first time the event started from Tyndall.



# Know how to prevent sun over-exposure

The key to being safe in the sun is preparation

**Staff Sgt. Mona Ferrell**  
*325th Fighter Wing  
public affairs*

While Florida’s sun-drenched weather may be perfect for a day at the air show, it’s important to remember that unprotected exposure to the sun can be dangerous. According the American Cancer Society, long-term exposure is the cause of more than one million cases of skin cancer diagnosed annually in the United States. In addition to skin cancer, the sun’s dangerous ultra-violet rays also increase the risk of cataracts and certain other

eye problems. Although long-term sun exposure can be harmful, it doesn’t have to be. By following a few basic guidelines and precautions listed below, people can enjoy the Florida weather while protecting themselves.

- Limit direct sun exposure during midday:** Ultra-violet rays are at their strongest during the hours of 10 a.m.-4 p.m.
- Use a sunscreen:** Although using a sunscreen for protection will not totally eliminate your risk, it does help. Experts recommend using a sunscreen with a Sun Protection Factor of 15 or higher. The SPF number represents the level of protection the lotion or oil will provide. An individual using a lotion with a SPF of 15 will receive the equivalent of one minute of the sun’s rays every 15 minutes. Sunscreen should also be applied liberally and according to the directions on the product label.
- Cover up:** Wearing a hat

outside is a good way for people to protect their ears, face, nose and scalp-areas that are often over-exposed. In addition, whenever possible, individuals should try to wear loose-fitting clothing.

- Wear sunglasses:** Besides eliminating squinting, wearing sunglasses can reduce the sun exposure which reduces a person’s chances of eye damage. Be sure to check the label on the glasses before purchasing them. A good pair of sunglasses should provide between 99-100 percent UVR protection.

The key to being safe in the sun is preparation. Just by taking these few precautions and realizing the harmful effect overexposure can have on the skin, a person greatly reduces their risk of skin cancer and eye damage.

More information about skin cancer prevention can be found on the ACS web site at: [www2.cancer.org/skinGuide/index.html](http://www2.cancer.org/skinGuide/index.html).



## Gulf Coast Salute Fun Run

The Gulf Coast Salute Fun Run will be 8 a.m. Saturday beginning at Maxwell Flag Park and ending at show center. The registration fee is \$12. For more information, call the fitness center, 283-2631.

## Sports Shorts

There will be a Chiefs vs. Eagles softball game 3 p.m. April 7 at Heritage Field. For more information, call Chief Master Sgt. Ron Georgia, 283-3268.

